

Appln No. 09/931,172.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The notice of allowance in this application was mailed on July 30, 2004. Examiner Strickland is thanked for the courtesy of the telephone discussion on October 27, 2004, and for his helpful comments in connection with the filing of this amendment.

This amendment is submitted to clarify the basis for priority to application PCT/FR00/00367. This application is a "bypass" application, which is a 35 U.S.C. §111(a) application claiming the benefit under § 365(c) to an international application. This amendment also adds a summary of the drawings as suggested by Mr. Strickland during the telephone conversation.

The examiner is encouraged to contact Jeff B. Vockrodt at 202-419-2021 to resolve any outstanding matters in connection with the filing of this amendment.

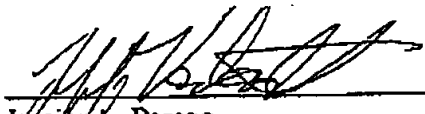
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Applicant believes that no charges are due in connection with this amendment. However, in the event any variance exists between the amount authorized to be charge to the Deposit Account and the Patent Office charges, please charge or credit any difference to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 50-0206.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: October 27, 2004

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